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Message Text

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ACTION FBO-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-05 ISO-00 /007 W
---------- 110216
R 141135Z SEP 73
FM AMCONSUL MADRAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2343
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS MADRAS 0955

FOR A/FBO NISONGER FROM PRINCIPAL OFFICER

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ABLD, AFIN, IN
SUBJECT: MADRAS PROPERTY 45428-BP SE)

1. I HAVE NOW HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK CAREFULLY AT RIVER HOUSE. I BELIEVE THAT IT CAN BE MADE SUITABLE FOR BOTH MY PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL FAMILY NEEDS WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

(A) REPLACEMENT OF SUN SCREEN ON EAST (FRONT) SIDE OF HOUSE. AS FBO AWARE, PRESENT SCREEN BLOCKS BOTH LIGHT AND VIEW. HAD HOPED TO UTILIZE PART OF THE EXISTING SCREEN, BUT AFTER STUDYING THE PLANS REALIZE THIS IS NOT FEASIBLE. SKETCHES OF NEW SCREEN DESIGN WILL FOLLOW.

(B) EXTENSION OF SOUTH TERRACE BY ABOUT 15 FEET. EXISTING WEST TERRACE IS WRONGLY SITUATED AND DOES NOT GET RIVER BREEZE AND THEREFORE HAS LIMITED USEFULNESS FOR OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT. SOUTH TERRACE FACES RIVER AND GETS BREEZE.

(C) INSTALLATION OF ATTRACTIVE WROUGHT IRON GRILL WORK ON ALL WINDOWS AND GLASS IN EXTERNAL DOORS. AT PRESENT THE HOUSE IS A NIGHMARE FROM SECURITY VIEWPOINT, WITH EASY ENTRANCE BY SIMPLY BREAKING WINDOW OR GLASS DOOR PANES.

(D) EXTENSION OF LENGTH OF THREE BEDROOMS (OTHER THAN MASTER BEDROOM) BY UTILIZING BALCONIES, I.E., BALCONIES, WHICH AT
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MOMENT ARE TOTALLY USELESS, WOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THE

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ROOMS. SUPPORT PILLARS AND SUPPORTING BEAM WOULD BE LEFT IN PLACE.

(E) ELIMINATION OF FALSE CEILING IN SAME THREE BEDROOMS. RETURN TO BARREL VAULT CEILING WILL ADD TO SIZE OF ROOMS AS WELL AS ALLOW ADDITIONAL LIGHT BY USING GLASS TRANSOMS UNDER THE VAULT ARCHES AT BOTH ENDS OF THE ROOMS.

(F) REPLACEMENT OF PRESENT WHITE ENAMEL DOORS THROUGHOUT HOUSE WITH POLISHED TEAK DOORS. PRESENT WHITE ENAMEL DOORS (EVEN FRONT DOOR) DETRACT CONSIDERABLY FROM APPEARANCE OF HOUSE AND GIVE FEELING OF CONTINUALLY WALKING INTO KITCHEN.

2. GARY LEE TELLS ME SEVERAL OF THESE IDEAS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED WITH NISONGER AND ALLISON. NONE OF THE CHANGES IS STRUCTURAL, SO I HOPE APPROVAL CAN BE FORTHCOMING QUICKLY SO THAT WE CAN START WORK ON THESE FEW FURTHER THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DONE TO MAKE THE HOUSE IMMEDIATELY LIVEABLE AND USEABLE. THE SUN SCREEN CHANGE IS THE ONLY ONE THAT WILL HAVE ANY EFFECT ON THE EXTERIOR APPEARANCE OF THE HOUSE, AND THAT CHANGE WILL BE ALL TO THE GOOD. WE WILL SEND A SKETCH ON THIS IN NEXT FEW DAYS, AS WELL AS COST ESTIMATES FOR ALL PROPOSED CHANGES.

3. LEE ESTIMATES CHANGES COULD BE EFFECTUATED IN TWO MONTHS ONCE AUTHORIZATION IS RECEIVED. HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO GET EARLY AUTHORIZATION SO THAT WORK CAN BE STARTED EARLY OCTOBER, BEFORE DEPARTURE ON TRANSFER OF LEE WHO HAS WORKED CLOSELY ON ALL OF THIS.
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